

The True Northerner.

Volume LVI. Number 8

PAW PAW, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1910.

Whole Number 2868

TOWNSHIP TICKETS WERE NOMINATED

Republicans Held Caucus Saturday. Treasurer Only Contest.

PASS STRONG RESOLUTIONS

To Support Only Candidates Who Favor Prosperity. Democrat Ticket Nominated.

The republican township caucus held at the opera house last Saturday afternoon was one of the largest ever held in the township. The best of feeling prevailed, the only contest of the day, that for the office of treasurer, was a friendly one and a splendid ticket was placed in nomination.

The caucus was called to order and the call read by F. N. Wakeman, chairman of the township republican committee, who was elected chairman of the caucus. Bert E. Bennett was elected secretary, and on motion G. W. Cate, C. W. Reynolds and E. J. Harrington were appointed tellers. There was no opposition to Marie H. Young for supervisor, and the tellers were instructed to cast the unanimous vote of the caucus for his renomination.

The same action was taken in the renomination of Bert E. Bennett for clerk.

Then came the only excitement of the day. For treasurer the names of A. W. Showerman, Roy Tuttle and Elia Bathrick were presented and the fight was on. On the first ballot Showerman and Tuttle each received 66 votes and Bathrick 18. On the second ballot Showerman received a majority of the votes cast and on motion of Roy Tuttle was declared the unanimous choice of the caucus.

For highway commissioner the names of Clarence Smith and Jay Hincley were presented. Smith was nominated on the first ballot.

The balance of the ticket was nominated as follows:

Justice of the peace, J. E. Packer; overseer of highways, John Minnick; member board of review, Milton H. Pugsley; constables, H. W. McCabe, Chas. D. Leach, Lewis Salisbury, W. V. Dow.

Hon. Jason Woodman offered a set of resolutions which were adopted by the unanimous vote of the caucus. In presenting the resolutions Mr. Woodman stated in substance that it was time for republicans to wake up to the situation; that the present times were the most prosperous in the history of the country; that while prices of produce were high, the price of labor was correspondingly high, and the efforts of certain magazines and periodicals to make a great

Continued on page 5.

OBJECTS TO KICK WAGON ON WALKS

The Small Boy and His "Kick Wagon" Has Become a Nuisance on the Village Walks.

There are harbingers and harbingers. The robin is a harbinger of spring, so is the boy who plays marbles where he has killed the grass on your lawn; the crocus and arbutus are also harbingers.

But the harbinger which is a sure indication that spring is here is neither poetic nor romantic, and is composed of a 50-cent express wagon and a small boy. The boy lays on his stomach and propels the wagon rapidly but erratically along the sidewalk to his evident delight, and the discomfort of pedestrians, by kicking violently out behind with one foot. The village board seem unable to abate this harbinger. The marshal confesses it's too deep for him, and the only remedy so far discovered is to take the boy gently from the wagon, wave him quietly but rapidly forty or fifty times horizontally, so that his face will have a dazed expression and his trousers be slightly frayed when you set him down, then wind the wagon around a shade tree, so that it will stay. This harbinger makes a noise like a traction engine and works over time every day. It has worn out more shoes, tipped over more baby cars, and caused more profanity than any harbinger this side of Detroit.

We speak of this in no spirit of malice or levity, but as one whose feelings have been deeply stirred and shins badly barked. We believe that a seat on the line fence of heaven awaits the person who can remove this harbinger from our sidewalks and the blot from the escutcheon of our fair city. It is with deepest humility that I meekly suggest that the Boosters' club ingraft into the next set of complex and copious resolutions addressed to the council, this little phrase: "Stop the kick wagon."

SORE SHINS.

SIMULTANEOUS REVIVALS

To Start in Van Buren County April 13. Movement is to be Undenominational.

Van Buren county is being organized for a simultaneous revival movement to begin April 13. Already Paw Paw, Lawrence, Bangor, Lacota, Breedsville, Mattawan, Bloomingdale, Keeler, Grand Junction and some other points have lined up for the movement, and other places in the county will follow. A number of evangelists from other states have been secured to assist the local pastors in these efforts. The Christian people are looking forward to a great work of grace and magnificent ingathering into the churches. The movement is interdenominational and simultaneous. All correspondence should be directed to Rev. E. L. Buchanan, organizer of the rural simultaneous movement, Paw Paw, Mich.

WILL START WORK ON ELECTRIC LINE

In Near Future. So Says Engineer S. B. Downer in Letter to Attorney L. H. Titus.

Reports from S. B. Downer, chief engineer of the Chicago, Michigan and Indiana Electric Railway Co., would indicate that operations will soon commence on the line to be built from Benton Harbor to Kalamazoo via Decatur.

In a recent letter to Attorney L. H. Titus, Mr. Downer states in part as follows:

"I expected to be in Paw Paw today, March 23, but other things came up that have delayed me. We have our men out contracting for the right of way for the first section of 14 miles. As soon as we get that secured, we will put the engineers in the field. Then I am going to set another crew at work between Paw Paw and Kalamazoo. Within a very short time I expect to be in full operation on both ends of the line."

This sounds good to Paw Paw people, and it seems to be the universal opinion that Paw Paw will get at least one electric line in the near future.

EARNEST APPEAL OF THE WOMEN

Ask Voters to Vote Yes for Them, and Insure Happy Homes. Pray for Retention of the Present Law.

"Van Buren county enjoys the enviable reputation of being the only county in the state which never consented by its vote to the saloon in its borders; and has for twenty years, by repeated majorities stood firmly against the legalized liquor traffic. Therefore we the undersigned women of.....

do earnestly pray the voters of our county to uphold the standard so long maintained, and again decree by their votes that the saloon shall continue to be prohibited in Van Buren county by voting yes on April 4."

The above petition has been circulated throughout the county and the most conservative estimate, as found by the canvass for names to the above petition, shows that at least nine-tenths of the women of Van Buren county are emphatically opposed to the saloon, and a large majority of the balance are simply indifferent, while only a very few women in the county really want the saloons brought back. If the women could vote there would be no need of mass meetings, or of the great outlay of work or money necessary in the campaigns, but they can have no voice in the battle, only by their influence. They therefore make earnest appeal to the men of the county that they represent the women and vote "Yes" on April 4.

RENEW HUNT FOR LOST MAN

Party of Seven Start Search for Robert Beilby, Who Disappeared Last Fall in Northern Mich.

A party of hunters left Benton Harbor the first of the week for northern Michigan to search the upper peninsula for the body of Robert Beilby. It will be remembered that Beilby was the deer hunter who left his camp November 16 and never returned. Whether he was attacked by wolves, shot by another hunter who hid the body and escaped or whether he lost his way and died struggling towards camp is a mystery which remains unsolved. Large rewards and weeks of searching by large parties failed to get any trace of the missing man.

Will Beilby, son of the missing man, heads the present expedition, which was organized to satisfy the appeals of Mrs. Beilby, wife of the unfortunate hunter. Beilby has several relatives in the village of Lawrence.

BANKERS OPPOSE SALOONS

Letters from Bankers of Van Buren County Telling Why They Favor Retention of Local Option Law. Business Men opposed to the Open Saloon.

In the closing hours of the local option campaign, the attention of the voters of Van Buren county is again called to the attitude of a large percentage of the business men of the county on the saloon question. The following letters from the bankers of the county are especially significant at this time. Read them over carefully.

There is no argument in favor of an open saloon, but these letters express only one of the many sentiments in favor of the present local option law. In addition to the endorsement of the present law by the banks, business men all over the county have expressed themselves in favor of local option and opposed to the open saloon. Signed statements to this effect are in the hands of the local option committee.

The inquiry mailed to the several bankers of the county reads as follows:

"Do you favor the retention of the Local Option law? If so, why?"

These are the replies:

Yes. Seen both. That's why.

J. E. SEBRING, Bangor.

Lawton, Mich., March 17, 1910.

We favor local option as enforced in Van Buren county because it prohibits and the whole community is better for it. We believe it will be the best financial move we can make to continue the present conditions.

JUAN MCKEYES & Co.

Paw Paw, Mich., March 19, 1910.

Having lived in Paw Paw for 62 years and having been connected with the banking business for 24 years, and having seen the effects of saloon rule and also the effects of local option rule, I am frank to say that in my opinion, from a social, moral and financial standpoint, that the return of the open saloon would be one of the worst possible calamities that could befall us.

J. W. FREE

Paw Paw, Mich., March 19, 1910.

Replying to your inquiry of 16th will say YES, I am heartily in favor of the local option law because I am a father, a citizen and a banker.

E. F. PARKS.

Covert, Mich.

Nothing else fills the bill as the present law. Our bank deposits have increased 25 per cent. Our merchants are selling more shoes and clothing, and the working man's family has lived better the past winter than ever. Our supervisor has only had to help one family this past winter. No drunks in sight.

A. B. CHASE.

Decatur, Mich., March 17, 1910.

I consider the saloon and the liquor traffic a nuisance, and a drain on the physical, moral and financial interests of any community, and I am strongly in favor of continuing the prohibition of the liquor traffic in this county. Decatur has been without the open saloon for over twenty years, and during that time it has enjoyed as good a degree of prosperity as the majority of towns of its size, and we know that a large number of good people have located here solely on that account. From a moral and social standpoint there is only one side of the question, while from a business standpoint it cannot be disputed that men can live better, pay their store bills better and have more money to deposit in the bank than with the drain of a saloon in the town. It has been so long since we have had a saloon in Decatur, it might not be fair to compare bank deposits now and then, but I can state that the deposits of Decatur banks are now over six and one-half times what they were twenty years ago. I know of no reason for a change back to the old saloon days.

L. D. HILL.

Hartford, Mich., March 17, 1910.

Replying to your inquiry of the 16th, "Do you favor the retention of the local option law, if so, why?" Yes, because the saloon is a detriment to any community or individual who makes use of the products therein kept for sale. No person would ever engage in the saloon business were it not for the profit. A place of business which keeps nothing for sale which its customers would not be better off without cannot be a good business for any community.

H. M. OLNEY.

Decatur, Mich., March 18, 1910.

In reply to your inquiry regarding my opinion as to the local situation on the present local option law and whether it should be repealed, I would say that I feel unqualified to answer this from a business standpoint except that I have heard two of our good merchants express themselves as in favor of the present law because more money is spent for necessities than when the old law prevailed. Inquiry of the local officers indicates that there has been less trouble on the streets and fewer arrests since September first than for a like period before that date.

GEO. T. POMEROY.

Gobleville, Mich.

I cheerfully announce that I am opposed to the saloon. I am not in favor of anything but that which brings good in some shape or another to the people as a whole, and I hope that the time is not far distant when arguments along this line will cease and sound absurd.

STANLEY SACKETT.

Yes, because the saloon is and always has been the most powerful patron and chief promoter of all the vices that destroy, debase and despoil the intelligence, manhood, prosperity, peace and happiness of our people.

MILAN D. WIGGINS.

The greatest number of people are being benefitted by the present local option law that ever have been by prohibition legislation in the state of Michigan.

J. L. WELCH.

Hartford, Mich., March 28, 1910.

Our community is better off both morally and financially without the saloon.

GEO. W. MERRIMAN.

OBLIGED TO RAISE THE PRICE

Booster Club Luncheons Will Be 35 Cents Per Plate in Future. Previous Price Too Low.

Attention is called to the Booster club luncheon, which will be held as usual at the Dyckman house at the usual hour next Tuesday. The luncheons from this time on will be 35 cents per plate. Landford Stephenson has served splendid meals at the luncheons, in fact, much better than he could afford at 25 cents per plate. Mr. Stephenson states that he has lost money on every luncheon that he has served. It has been a matter of common comment among members of the club that the price was too low for the service rendered, so there can be no objection on the part of any member for the slight increase in the price of the luncheons.

BUSINESS MEN DO NOT WANT SALOONS

Hundreds of Business Men of County Have Said They Favor Retention of Local Option Law.

Whereas, the local option law has been operative in Van Buren county for a period of 20 consecutive years, and

Whereas, those years have been the most prosperous years ever enjoyed by our people, and

Whereas, we, the undersigned, business men and citizens of the..... in said county, have had full opportunity to observe the effect of the present law upon the welfare of this community and upon business affairs in general;

Therefore, we earnestly favor a continuation of the present system and should consider a return to the era of the open saloon as nothing short of a public calamity viewed either from a business standpoint or as a question of good morals.

We, therefore, urge the voters of our county to go to the polls on the 4th day of April next and vote YES on the question of prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in Van Buren county.

Hundreds of business men from the different localities in this county—62 of them of the village of Paw Paw—have signed the above statement. Names on file with Messrs Rowland and Mosier, managers of local option campaign. Open for public inspection.

PLAY RETURN WHIST GAMES

Paw Paw Team Royally Entertained by Bangor Team Friday Night. Paw Paw Won Honors.

On Friday last the Paw Paw whist team went to Bangor to play the team of that place a return game. The match resulted in another victory for the Paw Paw players.

Those who went from Paw Paw were Messrs. B. F. Warner, E. D. Sirrine, E. C. Thayer, W. L. Miller, C. H. Hicks, J. C. Maxwell, W. F. Hoyt, Will Showerman, Leo Warner and W. C. Widley. Judge Des Voignes and F. N. Wakeman were guests of the team for the trip. The party went in automobiles driven by Howard Cooper, Harry Nash and Merle Young, and the run home was made in record breaking time. Cooper made it in 45 minutes and the other drivers in 47 minutes.

W. E. Showerman and Leo Warner had the high score for Paw Paw and Boyer and Wheeling for the Bangor team. The Bangor boys are strong players and courteous gentlemen. They gave their guests a royal reception and good time. It is hoped that other matches may be arranged between these teams.

On the way over a portion of the Paw Paw boys stopped at the home of Leslie Scott and enjoyed a short visit with that pleasant and affable gentleman.

RURAL CARRIERS REMEMBERED

The Paw Paw rural mail carriers were remembered by their patrons on Easter day, or rather on Monday, the day following. In nearly every mail box, they found a generous donation of eggs and post cards, expressing the good will and appreciation of the donors. Carrier J. A. Young on route 5 received the largest number, and when he got home and counted the eggs found that the number totaled just 20 dozen. This little remembrance was appreciated by the boys, and will help to make their work lighter during the coming year.

MORE THAN HER SHARE.

Mrs. George Weston has been having more than her share of sorrow during the past two weeks. On Sunday March 20, she was called to Detroit on account of the serious illness of her father. On the following Wednesday the two weeks' old child of her niece died, and was buried Friday. The mother died the same day, and on Saturday her father passed away at the hospital following an operation. Truly the old saying that trouble never comes singly has been verified.

ADDRESSED LARGE AUDIENCE SUNDAY

Opera House Crowded to Hear H. M. Olney and L. H. Titus.

TITUS ANSWERED MR. TOWNE

Showed Fallacy of "Wet" Arguments. Olney's Remarks on Politics ill Advised and in Bad Taste.

The local option meeting at the opera house last Sunday evening was addressed by H. M. Olney of Hartford and Attorney L. H. Titus of this place, as had been previously advertised. There was a good crowd out, the opera house being crowded, and considerable enthusiasm was shown.

H. M. Olney was the first speaker. His remarks along the lines of local option were splendid arguments for the retention of the present law. One strong point that he made was that "we should never do anything that we will be sorry for afterwards." If we should vote "Yes" next Monday, there can be no reason to feel sorry for our action. He advised the local option forces to be vigilant and work from now until time for the polls to close next Monday. Get out the vote by all means.

Mr. Olney's reference, however, to matters political at a local option meeting on a Sunday evening were, to say the least, in the opinion of all who heard it, ill advised and entirely out of place and lessened in no small degree the force of his previous remarks. His intimate friends are wondering what could have been his object and why he did it. Later developments show that Mr. Olney was mistaken in his charges. The True Northerner will make editorial comment on the matter in a later issue.

Attorney L. H. Titus was the last speaker, and it was the opinion of his listeners that it was one of the best speeches ever made by him. He devoted some time to answering the speech of the gifted orator, Chas. A. Towne, who spoke here for the liquor forces last Thursday evening. He showed the utter fallacy of Towne's arguments and how he had skillfully dodged the only issue in this campaign, to-wit: "Saloons or no saloons in Van Buren county." We regret our inability to give the entire text of Mr. Titus' remarks, as they were worthy of publication.

Continued on page 4.

HON. N. H. STEWART WAS AT HIS BEST

Delighted Fellowship Club with Talk on Robert Burns and Rendition of Many of His Poems.

The Fellowship club met last Tuesday evening at the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Cole. The committee having the matter in charge arranged a most delightful program, which was carried out in every detail. Each number was rendered in the most perfect and pleasing manner. L. B. Gorton presided at the piano and his performances were as usual of a very high order. Margaret Cole gave readings that stirred up enthusiasm and provoked great merriment. Katherine Cole, with her cultured contralto voice, delighted the club by singing two selections that were strong in sentiment and which filled her hearers with subdued emotions. LaRue Mosier sang a solo in his usual happy and impressive style.

But the climax came when Hon. N. H. Stewart of Kalamazoo was presented. He was received with great enthusiasm. Mr. Stewart is one of the leading literary students of the state and has made the study of Robert Burns and his poems a specialty. He is a Scotchman or an immediate descendant of Scotch ancestors, and enters upon his subject with energy and great earnestness. He is a man of fine ability and is possessed of a most wonderful memory. He gave a description of Burns' life, his poverty and the difficulties under which he labored in accomplishing his wonderful work. Mr. Stewart has memorized all of Burns' poems and has them at his tongue's end. For more than an hour he recited poem after poem and as a prelude to each, told of the circumstances under which they were written, which added an unusual interest to them. He asserted that everything written by Burns was based on facts and that none of his literary efforts had any connection with fiction. We doubt if there is any man living who has a better knowledge of Burns and his works than Mr. Stewart.

The evening was one of the best entertainments, if not the best, the club has had during the winter. A rising vote of thanks was given Mr. Stewart at the conclusion of his performance.